GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:841
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2015
Grounding of Dreamliner Aircraft
Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of 2012 make Dreamliner Aircraft have been grounded by the Air India due to snags and non availability of their spare parts in the country, if so, the details thereof along with the revenue loss to Air India on account of grounding of these Aircraft during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the Government has paid premium to Insurance Companies for insurance/renewal of insurance of such grounded aircraft during the said period, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION
(Dr Mahesh Sharma)

(a) During last three years, following Two 787-8 Dreamliner aircraft were on ground.
1. VT-ANI from 23-4-2014 to 14-02-2015.
2. VT-AND from 02-01-2015 to 27-11-2015.

The key reason for prolonged grounding was non availability of Spares and Components/ Line Replaceable Units.

The new state of Art Dreamliner aircraft were going through learning phase and therefore all B787 operators worldwide were facing problems due to High Rate of failures of Components. However, Boeing could not support the demand of failed units on various 787 flying aircraft since demand was more than supply.

Also due to financial crunch, AI was not able to procure requisite spares on credit basis.

As on date only One 787-8 VT-AND is on ground.

On account of the grounding of Dreamliner Aircraft, the company has incurred an expenditure of around USD 1 million per month per aircraft on account of the Lease Rentals on these aircraft. Besides, there is an opportunity loss suffered by the company as during the period of grounding these aircraft, they could not be inducted into operations.

(b) & (c) In respect of the above two Dreamliner Aircraft namely VTANI and VT-AND, the company has paid a normal insurance premium of Rs 2.26 crores for the grounded period. Further, it may be submitted that in respect of the grounding, the insurance premium is around 30% of the normal insurance premium amount. Accordingly, 70% of the insurance premium amount paid against the above two aircraft will be refunded back to the company by the Insurer at the end of the financial year.